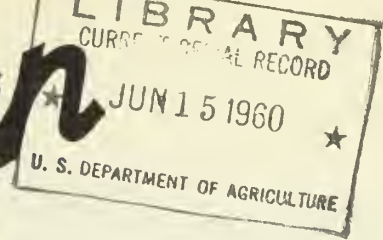


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Foreign



CROPS AND MARKETS

FOR RELEASE MONDAY, JUNE 6, 1960

VOLUME 80

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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Sugar Stocks at Start of 1959-60 Campaign Highest in 10 Years. Foreign
Agriculture Circular FS 1-60. 4 00.

Free World Tobacco Exports Drop Again in 1959. Foreign Agriculture
Circular FT-3-60. 6 pp.

Margarine in Western Europe. FAS-M 80. 17 pp.

Status of Cotton Purchase Authorizations Under Title I, P.L. 480.
Foreign Agriculture Circular FC 6-60. 3 pp.

Mexico's Agricultural Policies and Programs. Foreign Agriculture Circular
FATP 12-60. 7 pp.

U. S. SHARE OF MALAYAN-SINGAPORE
POULTRY MARKET INCREASES

The Federation of Malaya, and Singapore imported 533,000 pounds of U.S. frozen poultry in 1959, a 34 percent increase over the comparable 1958 figure. Shipments from the United States constituted 57 percent of the total 972,000 pounds imported by Malaya in 1959, and for the third straight year the United States continued to be as the primary source of chilled and frozen poultry imports.

(Continued on Page 18)

CIGARETTE OUTPUT DROPPED IN BELGIUM LAST YEAR

Output of tobacco products in Belgium totaled 52.6 million pounds in 1959, a little below 1958. Cigarette production, at 10,736 million pieces in 1959, was 1.2 percent less than the 10,866 million in 1958. Cigars and cigarillos showed gains last year, but output of smoking tobaccos dropped 2 percent.

TOBACCO PRODUCTS: Belgian output, 1957-59

	1957	1958	1959
Cigarettes (million pieces).....	10,546	10,866	10,736
Cigars (million pieces).....	135	149	165
Cigarillos (million pieces).....	642	612	639
Smoking mixtures (1,000 pounds).....	20,556	19,877	19,495

FEDETAB.

JAPAN'S TOBACCO IMPORTS UP IN 1959

Imports of unmanufactured tobacco by the Japan Tobacco Monopoly in 1959 totaled 12.5 million pounds and more than doubled those of 1958. The United States supplied all of the imports in 1959, with the exception of 400,000 pounds of oriental tobacco from Turkey. According to preliminary purchase plans of the Monopoly, it is likely that imports during the Japanese fiscal year 1960 (April 1960-March 1961) will total about 11 million pounds--practically all from the United States.

NORWAY'S CIGARETTE CONSUMPTION UP A LITTLE IN 1959

Norwegian smokers consumed 1,420 million factory-made cigarettes in 1959--a gain of 2 percent from the previous year, but still somewhat below the record of 1,441 million reported for 1957.

Smoking tobacco showed a substantial gain in 1959, with sales of 6.6 million pounds, compared with 6.3 million pounds in 1958. About 50 percent of the smoking tobacco is used in "roll-your-own" cigarettes. Norwegian smokers used more cigars in 1959, but consumption of chewing tobacco and snuff dropped from the previous year.

GREEK TOBACCO EXPORTS DROP AGAIN IN 1959

Greek exports of unmanufactured tobacco dropped to 124 million pounds in 1959, compared with 137.5 million in 1958, and 152.1 million in 1957.

West Germany continued as the principal market for Greek leaf last year, taking 36.5 million pounds. The United States with purchases of 26.3 million, ranked second. Both countries took considerably less Greek leaf tobacco in 1957 than in 1958.

Other countries taking less Greek leaf in 1959 than in 1958 included Austria, Switzerland, and the Soviet Union. Gains were scored in exports to France, Italy, Czechoslovakia, Belgium, Finland, Sweden, Hungary and Portugal. Total Greek exports to the Soviet Union and "bloc" countries in Eastern Europe were 17.5 million pounds in 1959, compared with 20.0 million in 1958.

TOBACCO, UNMANUFACTURED: Greece, exports by country
of destination, 1957-59

Country of destination	1957	1958	1959
	<u>:1,000 pounds</u>	<u>:1,000 pounds</u>	<u>:1,000 pounds</u>
United States.....	29,595	30,723	26,332
Germany, West.....	54,987	43,461	36,495
France.....	11,180	10,423	10,741
Italy.....	11,389	7,824	9,273
Soviet Union.....	6,766	11,803	9,081
Czechoslovakia.....	1,675	2,848	4,903
Belgium.....	5,626	4,246	4,848
Finland.....	2,489	2,482	3,291
Austria.....	6,903	5,157	3,232
Switzerland.....	1,971	2,879	2,447
Sweden.....	2,557	631	1,982
Hungary.....	3,322	1,556	1,905
Portugal.....	1,362	1,669	1,836
Netherlands.....	---	1,365	1,347
Others.....	12,295	10,436	6,331
Total.....	152,117	137,503	124,044

U.S. EXPORTS MORE COTTON
LINTERS THIS SEASON

U.S. exports of cotton lintners, mostly chemical qualities, totaled 338,000 bales (500 pounds gross) during August-March 1959-60--up 65 percent from exports of 205,000 bales in the same period a year earlier. Linters exports in March 1960 were 48,000 bales, compared with 39,000 in February, and 37,000 in March 1959.

Principal destinations of the August-March 1959-60 exports, with comparable 1958-59 figures in parentheses, were: West Germany 189,000 bales (83,000); Japan 64,000 (39,000); United Kingdom 37,000 (36,000); Netherlands 19,000 (1,000); Canada 18,000 (22,000); and France 5,000 (18,000).

COSTA RICA'S AFRICAN PALM OIL PRODUCTION
EXPECTED TO APPROXIMATE 1959 LEVEL

Costa Rica's production of African palm oil in 1960 is expected to approximate the 4,000-ton output of 1959. Unsold stocks have continued to accumulate during the last few years and have now become burdensome. No overseas markets are currently available, and as local industries are unable to absorb the entire production, no relief from the surplus is foreseen this year. Despite this problem African palm area is expected to be increased by 307 acres in 1960, bringing the total to 11,836 acres.

AFRICAN PALM OIL: Costa Rica, supply and distribution,
1958, 1959 and preliminary 1960

Supply and distribution	1958	1959	1960 <u>1/</u>
	<u>Short tons</u>	<u>Short tons</u>	<u>Short tons</u>
Supply:			
Stocks, January 1.....	542	1,520	2,252
Production:			
Pericarp oil.....	4,070	3,967	4,015
Kernel oil.....	279	370	998
Total supply.....	4,891	5,857	7,265
Distribution:			
Consumption:			
Pericarp oil.....	3,078	3,245	3,750
Kernel oil.....	293	360	750
Stocks, December 31:			
Pericarp oil.....	1,514	2,236	2,501
Kernel oil.....	6	16	264
Total distribution.....	4,891	5,857	7,265

1/ Preliminary forecast.

Trade sources.

Costa Rican palm oil is used domestically to make vegetable lard, margarine, cooking oil and soap.

SOUTH AFRICA'S EXPORTABLE PEANUTS
EXPECTED TO BE DOWN SHARPLY

The Union of South Africa's peanut supplies for export during the marketing year beginning May 1, 1960, are expected to be about 23,000 short tons, less than one-half the estimated exports a year earlier.

PEANUTS (SHELLED): -Union of South Africa, supply and distribution
1958-60, marketing years beginning May 1

Item	1958 1/	1959 2/	Forecast
	Short tons	Short tons	1960 Short tons
Supply:			
Opening stocks.....	8,268	0	0
Production.....	97,751	133,500	113,000
Total Supply.....	106,019	133,500	113,000
Distribution:			
Exports:			
Edible nuts.....	20,980	20,000	20,000
Crushing nuts.....	6,956	35,500	3,000
Total.....	27,936	55,500	23,000
Consumption:			
Edible nuts.....	9,690	10,000	10,000
Crushing.....	60,549	60,000	72,000
Seed and feed.....	7,844	8,000	8,000
Total.....	78,083	78,000	90,000
Ending stocks, April 30.....	0	0	0
Total distribution.....	106,019	133,500	113,000
1/ Revised. 2/ Estimated.			

The 1959-60 peanut and sunflower seed crops are estimated at 113,000 and 81,000 tons, respectively, down 15 and 26 percent from the previous year because of severe and prolonged drought. The size of the sunflower crop, which is usually consumed locally because it is the cheaper of the 2 major oils produced in South Africa, has an important bearing on the quantities of peanuts and peanut oil exported. In 1958-59, the Union exported 28,000 tons of peanuts and 16,000 tons of peanut oil.

Vegetable oil requirements of the union in the current marketing year were estimated at about 37,000 tons compared with 30,490 a year earlier. The oilcake from crushing domestically-produced oilseeds is consumed locally as animal feed.

PERUVIAN FISH MEAL OUTPUT
MAY RISE AGAIN

Trade sources estimate that fish meal production in Peru may reach 450,000 short tons in 1960, most of which will be exported. This would exceed the record 306,000 tons exported in 1959 by almost 50 percent and would be 4 times the 1955-59 average exports of 109,200 tons.

Fish meal exports from the port of Callao, Peru totaled 65,865 short tons in the first 3 months of 1960, almost 3 times the 22,745 tons shipped in January-March 1959. Fish meal exports from Callao accounted for around 40 percent of Peru's exports in 1959.

SWEDISH OILCAKE IMPORTS TO BE UP SUBSTANTIALLY

Swedish imports of oilcake and meal are expected to reach 235,000 short tons in the marketing year ending August 31, 1960. Imports in 1958-59 were only 150,575 tons. An estimated 120,000 tons of this year's imports will be soybean meal, mainly from Denmark and West Germany. Sizable quantities of cottonseed oilcake, peanut oilcake and sunflower seed oilcake are also being imported.

Swedish consumption of oilcake and meal in 1959-60 is estimated at 315,000 tons, up 85,000 tons from 1958-59. Domestic production, mainly from locally produced rapeseed and imported copra is estimated at 85,000 short tons, an increase of 5,000 tons from the previous year.

The sharp rise in domestic use this year stems from (1) the desire to maintain milk production because of relatively good milk prices; due to higher international butter prices and to the introduction last fall of a system of higher winter prices for milk and (2) reduced domestic feed supplies following the severe drought in the summer and fall of 1959, making imports of oilcakes and meals necessary.

MEXICAN WINTER VEGETABLE SHIPMENTS, APRIL 16-30.

The following winter vegetables from the West Coast of Mexico crossed the border at Nogales, Arizona, from April 1 to 16, 1960 (in thousands of pounds and last year's crossings are shown in parentheses): tomatoes 27,016 (25,410); watermelons 6,884 (18,687); cantaloups 1,201 (11,498); cucumbers 837 (315); peppers 587 (2,018); snap beans 621 (542); garlic 403 (503); sweet corn 185 (203); squash 67 (15); eggplant 18 (61); and onions 22 (1,236).

YUGOSLAVIA EXPECTS NEAR-RECORD WHEAT CROP

Yugoslavia's 1960 wheat production is expected to approach the record 1959 harvest of 152 million bushels. Though the condition of part of the crop is not as good as at this time last year, more of the acreage is seeded to higher yielding Italian varieties this year, tending to offset unfavorable factors. An estimated 345,000 acres were plowed up because of flood and winter damage.

INDONESIA INCREASES RICE IMPORTS FROM COMMUNIST CHINA

Forty-four percent of Indonesia's rice imports in 1959 were from Communist China, compared with 13 percent in 1958 and less than 1 percent in 1957. Indonesia imported virtually no rice from Communist China prior to that year.

Burma, formerly the principal source, ranked second to Communist China, supplying 38 percent of the total. Imports from the other previous sources were down, especially Thailand, South Vietnam, Spain, Italy, and the United States.

RICE (MILLED): Indonesia's imports, by country of origin,
average 1951-55, annual 1955-59

Country of origin	Average 1951-55	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959 1/
	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.
Brazil.....	754:	2/	1,172:	2/	2/	1,055
Burma.....	3,736:	1,920:	6,780:	4,493:	3,818:	5,097
Communist China.....	2/	2/	4:	41:	1,965:	5,879
Egypt.....	11:	2/	2/	2/	2,723:	59
Italy.....	140:	2/	2,295:	784:	838:	0
North Vietnam.....	0:	0:	0:	275:	251:	0
South Vietnam.....	3/ 956:	3/ 13:	3/ 25:	1:	929:	70
Spain.....	43:	2/	2/	208:	1,107:	0
Thailand.....	2,482:	849:	3,432:	3,932:	2,921:	742
United States.....	656:	2/	3,075:	2,683:	466:	384
Other countries.....	269:	12:	42:	5:	6:	3
Total.....	9,047:	2,794:	16,825:	12,422:	15,024:	13,289

1/ Preliminary. 2/ If any, included in "other countries". 3/ Includes Cambodia.

Compiled from official sources.

CANADIAN GRAIN SEEDING NEAR COMPLETION

Heavy rains delayed completion of spring grain seeding in many parts of Canada's grain belt in late May. The most serious delays are in northeastern Saskatchewan and some western and northern districts of Alberta where fields were too wet to be worked. Much of the southern area had been seeded. Moisture reserves are generally excellent and with few exceptions, pastures and hay crops are very promising.

Threshing of the over-wintered 1959 grain crop is virtually completed. While salvage of the grain has been successful, grades and weights are generally below fall-harvested grain.

COLOMBIA RAISES EXCHANGE RATE FOR COFFEE DOLLAR

The Central Bank of Colombia on May 13th raised the exchange rate for the coffee dollar from 6.10 to 6.50 pesos. In Colombia the coffee dollar is the rate of exchange which exporters are required to use in converting dollars earned from exports of coffee into pesos (Colombian currency).

According to the Coffee Federation, the upward adjustment is not likely to affect the export price of Colombian coffee. The Coffee Federation, in response to the above action, raised the farm coffee price from 405 pesos per cargo of 125 kilograms in parchment to 437 pesos (about 29 cents per pound of green coffee). The higher exchange rate for the coffee dollar will reduce the Federation's source of revenue, but is not expected to alter the Federation's buying policy.

NICARAGUA'S COFFEE EXPORTS HIGHER

Nicaragua's coffee exports for the October 1959 - March 1960 period amounted to 201,861 bags (132,276 pounds), compared with 188,558 bags for this 6-month period of the previous year. The average price for the 1959-60 season, at 40.09 cents per pound, is slightly above the average of 39.02 cents for the 1958-59 season, but is 15 percent less than the average 46.66 cents for the 1957-58 season.

It has been estimated that the foreign exchange income for the 1959-60 coffee crop will be about \$16.8 million. New and improved farm-to-city roads planned for the Matagalpa and Jinotega areas are expected to facilitate movement of the coffee to market.

COFFEE RESEARCH AID PROVIDED IN KENYA

A grant of £ 21,235 (\$U.S. 59,458) has been made from Colonial Development and Welfare funds to aid research in Kenya on berry disease and leaf rust, the 2 most important fungal diseases of coffee. The grant is to meet half the estimated expenditure over the next 2 years, while the other half will be met by the Coffee Board of Kenya under its research expansion program. The Kenya Government will assist with provision of research facilities and certain personnel.

ARGENTINE GRAIN EXPORTS CONTINUE UPWARD TREND

Argentine grain exports during the first 9 months (July-March) of 1959-60 totaled 4.3 million metric tons, about 9.5 percent above last season.

GRAINS: Argentine exports, July-March 1958-59 and July-March 1959-60

Country of destination	Wheat	Rye	Corn	Oats	Barley	Sorghums ^{1/}	Total
	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons
July-March 1958-59:							
United States	--	--	4,560:	--	--	--	4,560
Bolivia	16,500:	--	--	--	--	--	16,500
Brazil	825,765:	--	--	7,552	2,000	--	835,317
Paraguay	43,038:	--	--	--	--	--	43,038
Peru	80,349:	--	--	--	--	--	80,349
Uruguay	--	--	472:	--	940	--	1,412
Austria	10,713:	--	9,870:	--	--	--	20,583
Belgium-Luxembourg :	59,990:	4,970	160,902:	8,777	5,711	--	240,350
Czechoslovakia	--	--	2,850:	1,500	--	--	4,350
Denmark	19,799:	6,200	10,513:	15,076	950	--	52,538
France	30,621:	--	5,664:	--	--	--	36,285
Germany, West	245,052:	12,598	120,747:	54,767	105,407	--	538,571
Italy	13,055:	9,083	462,055:	13,946	21,142	--	519,281
Malta	--	--	203:	--	508	--	711
Netherlands	98,422:	14,776	417,012:	43,317	12,503	--	586,030
Norway	6,450:	--	6,958:	--	--	--	13,408
Poland	--	--	3,960:	--	--	--	3,960
Rumania	--	7,771	6,200:	1,150	--	--	15,121
Sweden	800:	9,481	3,650:	5,490	500	--	19,921
Switzerland	300:	646	13,866:	420	950	--	16,182
United Kingdom	367,859:	1,330	257,881:	12,808	--	--	639,878
Yugoslavia	1,000:	--	--	--	--	--	1,000
Japan	--	--	211,059:	--	--	--	211,059
Lebanon	7,875:	--	--	--	--	--	7,875
Madeira Islands ...:	6,907:	--	--	--	--	--	6,907
North Africa	--	--	1,785:	--	--	--	1,785
South Africa	8,168:	--	--	--	--	--	8,168
Total	1,842,663:	66,855	1,700,207:	164,803	150,611	1/	3,925,139
July-March 1959-60:							
United States	--	--	2,657:	--	--	--	2,657
Canada	--	--	--	--	--	125	125
Brazil	596,150:	--	--	3,089	6,143	--	605,382
Chile	50,000:	--	--	--	--	--	50,000
Paraguay	56,620:	--	--	--	--	--	56,620
Peru	86,088:	--	2,210:	--	--	--	88,298
Uruguay	10,870:	500	840:	2,001	7,985	--	22,196
Austria	20,965:	8,029	3,300:	160	--	150	32,604
Belgium-Luxembourg :	25,384:	2,372	210,355:	4,847	1,186	23,807	267,951
Denmark	1,575:	200	2,188:	6,950	--	8,325	19,238
France	52,164:	--	2,890:	--	--	--	55,054
Germany, East	--	--	--	--	--	1,190	1,190
Germany, West	167,303:	16,606	153,088:	61,396	148,092	11,790	558,275
Italy	50,508:	3,548	878,325:	20,920	20,401	5,668	979,370
Netherlands	87,887:	14,311	475,323:	49,122	16,901	90,337	733,881
Norway	15,000:	2,100	--	--	600	--	17,700
Sweden	--	1,200	3,650:	2,650	--	235	7,735
Switzerland	6,565:	--	14,546:	1,400	--	--	22,511
United Kingdom	149,084:	1,224	287,823:	--	13,444	9,636	461,211
U.S.S.R.	--	--	--	--	5,140	--	5,140
Yugoslavia	--	--	--	--	--	250	250
Japan	--	--	277,057:	--	--	--	277,057
Lebanon	26,065:	--	--	--	1,350	--	27,415
South Africa	--	--	--	--	--	18	18
Total	1,402,228:	50,090	2,314,252:	152,535	221,242	151,531	4,291,878

^{1/} Not available prior to September 1959.

Corn exports were up 14,000 tons and barley up 70,000 tons, while sorghums totaled 152,000 tons against none the previous year. In contrast, wheat exports were down 441,000 tons, rye, 17,000 tons, and oats, 12,000 tons.

Exports of corn to Belgium-Luxembourg increased by 49,000 tons over last year, Italy by 416,000 tons and Japan by 66,000. West Germany was the principal market for the barley, taking 148,000 tons in July-March 1959-60 compared with 105,000 tons the year before. About 60 percent of the grain sorghums went to the Netherlands.

Exports of wheat to the main markets during July-March 1959-60 follow with comparable data for the previous season shown in parentheses: Brazil, 596 (826); West Germany, 167 (245); and the United Kingdom, 149 (368).

AUSTRALIAN BEEF SHIPMENTS TO U.S. IN APRIL AND MAY

Two ships left Australian ports in early May with 845,000 pounds of frozen beef for the United States.

<u>Ship</u>	<u>Sailing Date</u>	<u>Destination 1/</u>	<u>Quantity 1,000 lbs.</u>
Monterey	May 11	Los Angeles	287
"	"	San Francisco	475
Lloyd Bakke	May 6	Los Angeles	11
" "	"	San Francisco	34
" "	"	Seattle	38

1/ Cities listed indicate location of purchasers, and are usually also the port of arrival and general market area for the meat; in some instances, meat may be diverted to other areas for sale.

A Report has also been received that the Elizabeth Bakke (Foreign Crops and Markets, May 9, 1960) sailed on April 9 with 282,000 pounds; 202,000 for Seattle, 45,000 for Los Angeles, and 36,000 for Portland.

U.S. EXPORTS OF MOHAIR DECLINE IN FIRST QUARTER OF 1960

U.S. exports of mohair and other wool-like specialty hair declined 38 percent during the first quarter of 1960. Total shipments were 3.3 million pounds, clean basis, compared with 5.2 million pounds in 1959. Exports to the United Kingdom, Netherlands, Belgium, and Japan were substantially lower during the first quarter.

Large exports in the first quarter of 1959 were the result of sharply improved demand following the textile recession of 1958.

MOHAIR: 1/ U.S. exports by country of destination, clean content, annual 1957-59, and January-March 1959-1960

Country of destination	Annual			January-March		
	1957	1958	1959	1959	1960	Increase or decrease (-)
	1960	1960	1960	1960	1960	1960
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
United Kingdom.....	6,017	8,115	10,431	3,179	1,957	-1,222
Netherlands.....	1,804	3,046	4,407	1,113	462	-651
Belgium.....	1,432	854	1,148	429	162	-267
Japan.....	402	263	811	326	224	-102
Canada.....	57	247	193	40	100	60
Italy.....	9	37	657	28	101	73
Germany, West.....	94	369	627	58	118	60
Switzerland.....	74	190	69	10	32	22
Others.....	112	126	218	39	105	66
Total.....	9,992	13,210	18,561	5,222	3,261	-1,961

1/ Includes other wool-like specialty hair.

Bureau of the Census.

U.S. LARD EXPORTS UP SHARPLY IN JANUARY-MARCH

Lard exports the first 3 months of 1960 were 175 million pounds, ²⁴ percent above a year earlier, and 66 percent greater than in the same period of 1958. Shipments to the United Kingdom, which more than doubled, accounted for the increase. Relatively low prices and the development of bulk handling have stimulated exports to that country.

Exports to Cuba in early 1960 were 26 percent below last year's level but at about the same level as in 1958. Shipments to West Germany, Yugoslavia, and Mexico also declined sharply.

With a number of foreign markets becoming more nearly self-sufficient, the lard export market has been almost reduced to the United Kingdom and Cuba. These 2 countries accounted for 87 percent of January-March exports compared with 51 percent in the 1951-55 period.

LARD INCLUDING RENDERED PORK FAT: U.S. exports by country of destination
average 1951-55, annual 1958-59 and January-March 1959-60

Continent and country	Average 1951-55	1958	1959 1/	January-March 1959 1/	1960 1/	Increase or decrease (-) 1960
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
North America:						
Canada.....	6,497	5,108	4,070	1,111	1,873	+762
Mexico.....	31,823	14,565	10,524	3,478	2,839	-639
Panama Canal Zone.....	967	152	81	4	91	+87
Costa Rica.....	7,363	1,751	5,281	765	1,849	+1,084
El Salvador.....	4,299	3,190	2,603	795	1,217	+422
Guatemala.....	8,668	3,476	7,856	1,291	1,919	+628
Panama.....	6,560	7,177	4,612	748	938	+190
Cuba.....	157,427	165,302	217,033	68,674	50,973	-17,701
Haiti.....	6,725	7,246	7,550	1,783	2,467	+684
Netherlands (Antilles).....	1,066	295	415	203	77	-126
Other.....	1,870	1,422	1,632	570	479	-91
Total.....	233,265	209,684	261,657	79,422	64,722	-14,700
South America:						
Bolivia.....	3,755	696	6,252	40	1,607	1,567
Brazil.....	2,088	--	55	--	19	+19
Colombia.....	3,359	--	26	--	15	+15
Ecuador.....	5,494	--	19	--	--	--
Peru.....	12,521	585	4,579	842	494	-348
Venezuela.....	3,640	402	609	263	220	-43
Other.....	134	268	1,774	44	474	+430
Total.....	30,991	1,951	13,314	1,189	2,829	+1,640
Europe:						
Austria.....	23,579	1,100	22	--	45	+45
France.....	1,104	140	106	--	280	+280
Germany, West.....	55,978	10,928	39,940	10,200	3,078	-7,122
Netherlands.....	33,114	--	1,547	522	660	+138
United Kingdom.....	124,685	146,451	274,603	46,430	101,791	+55,361
Yugoslavia.....	38,431	15,479	7,832	1,836	--	-1,836
Other.....	8,162	872	820	26	263	+237
Total.....	285,053	174,970	324,870	59,014	106,117	+47,103
Asia.....	5,197	2,245	3,045	617	891	+274
Other.....	130	--	1,276	2/ 338	7	-331
World total.....	554,636	388,850	604,162	140,580	174,566	+33,986

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Includes a small quantity, final destination not known.

Bureau of the Census.

WOOL FUTURES MART OPENS IN AUSTRALIA

The Australian grease wool futures market began operations May 11 in Sydney. As was expected with a new venture, movements were irregular and prices were below current auction market prices. The weakness of London futures and the distance from first delivery month (September) may have affected lower prices. The turnover opening day was 140 lots (each lot is 3,000 pounds clean weight) with the United Kingdom and Continental interests doing most of the trading.

Japanese woolmen are reportedly watching the new futures market with considerable interest. Japan is now the leading buyer of Australian raw wool and Japanese hedging operations have been practically limited to the Nagoya (Japan) yarn futures market.

BAHIA (BRAZIL) CASTOR BEAN MARKETING AND PROCESSING VIRTUALLY AT STANDSTILL

Castor bean marketing and processing in Bahia, the state that normally accounts for about 40 percent of Brazil's total castor bean production, is virtually at a standstill despite the substantial quantity of beans harvested in the interior during April. Cloudy weather, following heavy unseasonal rains in March, (see Foreign Crops and Markets, May 2, 1960) has slowed the sub-drying process which must take place prior to shipment. Also, secondary roads from the growing areas to the collecting centers are impassable because of the recent rains. Both of the oil manufacturers in the city of Salvador are closed because of lack of seed, and one firm indicates that delivery of seed is not expected in quantity before July.

INDIA PLANS TO CONSTRUCT RICE BRAN OIL PLANT

The Central Food Technological Research Institute of Mysore, India is designing a 10-ton plant to extract high-grade edible oil from rice bran. The Institute has evolved a new process of recovering the oil by solvent extraction using industrial alcohol, a by-product of the Indian sugar industry. If the results are satisfactory, large-scale production will be possible, according to press reports.

Bran constitutes about 6 to 13 percent of rice and has an oil content of 10 to 22 percent. Rice bran oil is rich in vitamins and is suitable both as a cooking and a salad oil. The oil can be hydrogenated to produce vanaspati (hydrogenated vegetable oil).

NEVIS, WEST INDIES, HAS NEW MARGARINE PLANT

A new plant to manufacture margarine, edible oils and soap is expected to go into production shortly in the Island of Nevis, West Indies. The company will process locally produced cottonseed and copra.

U.S. EXPORTS OF HIDES AND SKINS HIGHER IN FIRST QUARTER

U.S. exports of cattle hides and calf skins rose sharply during the first 3 months of 1960. Exports of cattle hides, at 1.7 million pieces, were 49 percent above the corresponding period last year. Calf skin exports were also higher, up 28 percent from a year ago. Shipments to Japan and the Netherlands were substantially above a year earlier. Increased U.S. cattle slaughter, plus reduced supplies in Australia and Argentina, are largely responsible for these increases.

Shipments of kip skins and sheep and lamb skins were down 9 percent and 12 percent, respectively, largely as a result of reduced demand for sheep and lamb skins in the United Kingdom and for kip skins in Japan.

HIDES AND SKINS: U.S. exports, annual 1957-59,
January-March 1959-60

Country of destination	Annual			January-March		Increase or decrease (-)
	1957	1958	1959	1959	1960	
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pieces	pieces	pieces	pieces	pieces	pieces
Cattle hides:						
Canada.....	818	580	591	211	153	-58
Mexico.....	424	330	503	97	133	36
Germany, West.....	812	615	629	121	169	48
Netherlands.....	1,369	869	568	126	395	269
Poland.....	5	295	92	4	8	4
United Kingdom.....	390	167	47	12	26	14
Yugoslavia.....	203	195	139	30	7	-23
Japan.....	1,397	1,438	1,083	347	486	139
Others.....	1,097	909	503	163	273	110
Total.....	6,517	5,398	4,155	1,111	1,650	539
Calf skins:						
Canada.....	704	671	573	149	137	-12
France.....	36	143	24	6	8	2
Germany, West.....	300	361	150	54	42	-12
Italy.....	194	249	205	42	55	13
Netherlands.....	196	250	129	14	62	48
Switzerland.....	50	126	26	10	22	12
United Kingdom.....	110	45	13	4	31	27
Japan.....	412	404	178	40	54	14
Others.....	68	104	116	25	28	3
Total.....	2,070	2,353	1,414	344	439	95
Kip skins:						
Canada.....	8	10	4	1	2	1
Belgium.....	22	22	23	0	0	0
Germany, West.....	417	251	128	21	24	3
Netherlands.....	181	108	127	26	35	9
United Kingdom.....	98	10	4	0	13	13
Japan.....	405	186	95	34	13	-21
Others.....	95	128	102	35	19	-16
Total.....	1,226	715	483	117	106	-11
Sheep and lamb 1/:						
Canada.....	609	502	799	129	112	-17
Mexico.....	62	108	131	12	21	9
France.....	107	10	9	5	7	2
Germany, West.....	23	48	37	2	14	12
Sweden.....	62	95	120	38	32	-6
United Kingdom.....	382	412	606	196	98	-98
Others.....	109	2/ 190	225	57	104	47
Total.....	1,354	1,365	1,927	439	388	-51

1/ Includes goat and kid skins. 2/ Includes 134 to Poland.

U.S. LIVESTOCK AND MEAT IMPORTS CONTINUE TO DECLINE

U.S. imports of livestock and meat products in March continued the declining trend of January and February and were substantially below a year earlier.

Total red meat imports during March dropped 7 percent from February and 19 percent from last March. This drop is due to the much lower imports of South American salted boneless beef; and the substantial drop in pork, particularly from Canada because of an equalization of Canadian-U.S. prices. However, variety meats, sausage casings, wool, hides and skins and live cattle were above February levels; carpet wool was up about 39 percent, and lamb skins more than tripled. Compared to last March, variety meats and sausage casings were somewhat higher, and live cattle imports rose 18 percent; but wool and hides and skins dropped considerably because of already large wool inventories and increasing supplies of hides and skins.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS: U.S. imports of selected items, March 1959 and 1960,
January-March 1959 and 1960, with percentage change

(Product weight basis)

Commodity	March		Percent change	January-March		Percent change
	1959	1960		1959	1960	
Red meats:	1,000	1,000		1,000	1,000	
Fresh, frozen, canned, and	pounds	pounds	Percent	pounds	pounds	Percent
cured beef and veal.....	28,763	32,887	+14	110,286	105,464	-4
Other meats 1/.....	15,116	21,835	-88	38,058	6,835	-82
Total beef and veal.....	43,884	34,722	-21	148,344	112,299	-24
Pork.....	16,538	11,832	-28	47,842	41,135	-14
Mutton.....	1,951	3,360	+72	8,217	10,371	+26
Lamb.....	363	803	+121	1,370	3,785	+176
Total red meat.....	62,736	50,717	-19	205,773	167,590	-19
Variety meats.....	118	180	+53	457	448	-2
Sausage casings:						
Sheep and goat.....	524	548	+5	1,109	1,327	+20
Other natural.....	763	790	+4	2,454	2,394	-2
Wool (clean basis):						
Dutiable.....	11,853	9,180	-22	31,848	25,850	-19
Duty free.....	21,911	18,090	-17	55,832	43,358	-22
Total wool.....	33,764	27,270	-19	87,680	69,208	-21
Hides and skins (1,000 pcs.):						
Cattle.....	103	41	-60	279	95	-66
Calf and kip.....	122	72	-41	419	176	-58
Sheep and lamb.....	6,364	5,585	-12	10,601	8,853	-16
Goat and kid.....	2,243	1,530	-32	6,777	4,835	-29
Live cattle (number) 3/.....	65,998	78,077	+18	222,835	190,964	-14

1/ Other meat, canned, prepared, or preserved; mostly salted boneless beef from South America during 1959.

2/ Includes 673,000 from Argentina, 625,000 from Denmark, and 419,000 from Ireland.

3/ Includes cattle for breeding.

Bureau of the Census.

For the January-March period, total livestock and meat imports were down substantially from a year earlier. Red meat dropped 19 percent and all other categories except sausage casings were down substantially. Red meat items showing increases in January-March 1960 were mutton (up 26 percent) and lamb (up 176 percent). Australia accounted for most of the increase in lamb and mutton, but New Zealand and Iceland also increased lamb exports. Mutton imports declined from all sources except Australia.

Boneless beef imports for the first quarter were down about 5 percent but March imports were up compared to last March. Australia has increased its shipments and several Central American countries have now entered this trade. January-March pickled and cured beef imports increased slightly and canned beef rose about 25 percent (mainly from Brazil). Fresh pork imports, which come almost entirely from Canada, were down considerably for the quarter.

Main reasons for increased imports of lamb, boneless beef and mutton has been increasing U.S. prices and the desire of Australian interests to use their established trade contacts and transportation arrangements. Increased U.S. consumer demand for sausage products and low U.S. lamb and mutton supplies have been important factors behind the U.S. price increases for these items.

Cattle imports, although they picked up briskly during March, are still well below last year. Mexican shipments dropped for the quarter as they have been down each month this year. Mexico's domestic demand for cattle and beef has been increasing considerably. Imports from Canada were greatly increased, however, mainly due to sharp gains in March. Although the substantial buildup in U.S. range herds and cattle on feed lots has reduced the U.S. demand for feeder and stocker cattle imports from last year, U.S. prices increased slightly from January to April mainly because of reduced marketings, which resulted from inclement weather conditions, and increased demand for beef. During this same period Canadian price levels held steady for feeders and stockers, and dropped for slaughter cattle.

Imports of live sheep and lambs increased sharply during the quarter to 23,837 head when 23,286 from Australia were released from Customs in March.

DENMARK'S COTTON IMPORTS AND CONSUMPTION RISE SHARPLY

Cotton imports into Denmark totaled 31,000 bales (500 pounds gross) during the first 7 months (August-February) of the current season. This was an increase of 63 percent from the 17,000 bales imported during the corresponding 1958-59 period, pointing up the improved textile situation in Denmark.

Quantities imported from major sources during August-February 1959-60, with comparable 1958-59 figures in parentheses, were: United States 15,000 bales (8,000); Peru 6,000 (7,000); Mexico 4,000 (3,000); Nigeria 3,000 (0); and Sudan 1,000 (450). Total imports during the 1959-60 season will be considerably larger than the 33,000 bales imported in 1958-59.

Consumption of an estimated 24,000 bales of cotton during the first 6 months of this season was up 33 percent from the 18,000 bales used in the same period a year earlier. The increased rate of consumption will probably continue for some time since consumer demand is strong, and inventories of finished goods have been reduced.

Midseason cotton stocks on January 31, 1960 were moderately larger than beginning stocks of 9,000 bales on August 1, 1959.

COLOMBIAN COTTON EXPORTS NEAR 30,000 BALES

According to an announcement by the Colombian Cotton Development Institute, around 30,000 bales of cotton from the 1959-60 crop have been sold for export--the first commercial export sales of Colombian cotton in over 50 years. Shipments of this cotton, which continued from February through May 1960, were mainly to Sweden, Switzerland, West Germany, the United Kingdom, and Japan. The announcement stated that Colombia will gain the equivalent of about \$3-1/4 million in foreign exchange from these exports.

MALAYAN POULTRY IMPORTS --(Continued from Page 2)

Both the Federation of Malaya and Singapore are planning to expand local poultry production. Although reliable poultry population statistics are not available, it is estimated that present production meets about 80 percent of the domestic demand. The remaining demand is primarily met through imports from Australia, Denmark, and the Netherlands, in addition to the United States.

The bulk of the imported frozen poultry is sold through several recently constructed super markets and chain stores. Most of the clientele purchasing from these retail outlets are European and other Westerners located in Malaya.

About 75 percent of the consumers in Singapore are Chinese. In order to determine their reaction to imported frozen poultry, a survey was conducted by a commercial firm for the Foreign Agricultural Service. Of the group surveyed, over 90 percent of those who purchased and tried the U. S. product liked it because it was "convenient, tasty, and had lots of flesh."

Nevertheless, the high price of the imported product limited sales to those who were willing to pay a premium for a high quality product. For example, the recent retail price for U. S. frozen frying chicken in Kuala Lumpur was equivalent to 96.7 U. S. cents per pound. Locally produced dressed broilers retailed for 50 cents per pound. Singapore prices for U. S. frozen poultry are 8.3 to 13 cents per pound less than those in Kuala Lumpur.

Singapore and Malaya have imported about 1 million pounds of poultry annually for the past 5 years. While the U. S. share has been increasing each year, it appears that Malaya's total poultry consumption must increase before a continually expanding U. S. market can be expected.

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